Remarks/Arguments

5   Claim Rejections

Examiner:

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kikinis (U.S. Patent No. 5,841,424).

10 Response:

Independent claim 1 has been amended to distinctly point out and claim the present invention. No new material has been introduced.

15   Kikinis discloses a keyboard having a plurality of docking ports. With a proper adapter, each docking port can connect to a "peripheral device" such as a PDA or a pen recorder. The docking ports provide a connection between the peripheral devices and a host computer. For example,
20   the major embodiment has a plurality of serial devices connected to the keyboard. The disclosed keyboard has a multiplexer and circuitry for selecting, routing, and converting the respective serial signals through a single USB connection to the host computer. It is a protocol
25   translation device "whereby a PC user can connect several serial-compatible peripheral devices to a USB node connected to his/her computer without the trouble and expense of expansion cards and multiple serial cables and switches" (Col.2, lines 20-24).

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On the other hand, the present invention discloses a PDA system that includes a conventional PDA, a cradle, and

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a p ripheral module for expanding functionality of the PDA.
The cradle comprises a first socket for connecting to the
PDA and for providing power to the PDA. Depending upon which
embodiment is being employed, the cradle may or may not

5   also comprise a second socket that is electrically connected
to the first socket. The peripheral module is connected
to the second socket on the cradle (when the PDA is connected
to the first socket) or connected between the first socket
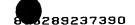and the connecting port of the PDA.

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The peripheral module is for expanding functionality
of the PDA and the claimed connections permit this feature
by allowing the PDA to control the peripheral module. One
example of such a peripheral module is a VGA module that

15   functions to output video signals generated by the PDA to
a display screen (Paragraph 25). However, the Applicant
is unable to find any teachings or suggestions in the
disclosure of Kikinis that any of the peripheral devices
control any other of the peripheral devices or that the

20   connections in the disclosed invention permits this. The
disclosure of Kikinis merely permits translation between
standard serial protocol devices and a USB protocol
(Abstract). The present invention expands functionality
of the PDA.

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As such, the Applicant believes that the claimed
connections and claimed ability of the PDA to control the
peripheral module represents a new and useful device not
taught or suggested by the prior art. Therefore, the

30   Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claims
1-10.

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Support f r New Claims 11-14

Support for new claims 11, 13, and 14 can be found in
paragraph 23 of the present application. New independent

5   claim 12 comprises limitations of a power control function
provided by the peripheral device and is supported in
paragraph 27. No new material has been introduced.

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Sincerely,

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